
Status & Remarks

The application presently contains the following claims:

<i>Independent Claim #</i>	<i>Dependent Claim #s</i>
1	2-35
37	40-58

Claims 59-68 were canceled in a previous amendment, the claims being directed to a non-elected invention, claims 38-39 are canceled in this amendment while claims 37, 40 and 43 are amended.

The Examiner has represented that claims 1-36 are allowable while claims 39-56 are objected to.

The applicant's attorney thanks the examiner for his consideration of this application and has amended claim #37 in conformity with the allowable subject matter of claims 39 thereby rendering all pending claims in this application allowable.

In the Drawings

FIGS. 17-21 were added in the previous amendment response. However, no mention of this was made by the examiner in the recent office action. The applicant's attorney respectfully requests that the examiner indicate if these Figures are accepted by the Office.

35 USC §102

There are no pending rejections under this section.

35 USC §103

The examiner has rejected claims 37-38 and 57 under this section, subparagraph (a) and advanced various reasons therefore. The applicant's attorney would respectfully request the examiner reconsider his position in light of the amendments made to claim #37 pursuant to the recommendation of the examiner in reciting his objections.

Request for Reconsideration

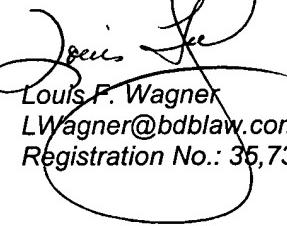
Applicant believes that all independent claims clearly define over the prior art and that the distinctions between the present invention and the prior art would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Additionally, the remaining dependent claims, by the limitations contained in the base independent claims, are felt to be patentable over the prior art by virtue of their dependency from independent claims which distinguish over the prior art of record. All pending claims are thought to be allowable and reconsideration by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that no new additional searching will be required by the examiner. A fee determination sheet is attached for this amendment response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee required to effect the filing of this document to Account No. 50-0983.

It is respectfully submitted that all references identified by the examiner have been distinguished in a non-obvious way. If the examiner believes that a telephonic conversation would facilitate a resolution of any and/or all of the outstanding issues pending in this application, then such a call is cordially invited at the convenience of the examiner.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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